

Monument Place (Col. Moses Shepherd Residence)
Elm Grove (Wheeling), Ohio County, West Virginia

HABS No. WVa 21-8

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District of West Virginia

Historic American Buildings Survey
Herbert S. Kyle, District Officer
1107 Union Bldg., Charleston, W. Va.

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MONUMENT PLACE (Col. Moses Shepherd Residence)
Elm Grove, Ohio County, West Virginia.

Owner Osiris Temple A.A.O.N.M.S.

Date of Erection 1798.

Builder Colonel Moses Shepherd.

Present Condition Good. Little changed from time of its erection. Preserved by Masonic Order.

Number of Stories Three.

Materials of Construction Stone foundation and outside walls, including gables, laid coursed ashlar pattern. Floor joist, ceiling joist and rafters, wood, frame construction. The present composition shingle roof is not original. The doors are of walnut with wood pins. Materials and interior cornices and panelling contain a great amount of detail. The cornices particularly have finely carved dentils and moldings. The type and character of the interior woodwork is outstanding.

Other Existing Records "Monument Place", a booklet of the Osiris Temple, custody of Mr. R.C. Lindsley, 2206 Chapline Street, Wheeling, West Virginia. History of the Northwestern Panhandle, Brant's History of the Upper Ohio Valley, custody of W. Va. Department of Archives and History.

Additional Data "Shepherd Mansion", also called "Shepherd Hall" was built by Colonel Moses Shepherd at the site of Fort Shepherd, where he had spent his early life, his father having built Fort Shepherd for the protection of the people of the surrounding neighborhood seven years prior to its destruction in an Indian uprising, incited by the British. The house was later called "Monument Place", due to the monument erected to Henry Clay, whose influence caused the National Road to pass through the Shepherd estate. The house is built in the manner of the Georgian period and considerable of the detail is Grecian. Vines now cover almost the entire outer surface. The front doorway is an especially fine example of workmanship. Over it is a colonial sunburst which admits the light. Colonel Shepherd built many miles of the National Road as well as several of the bridges, thus adding to his wealth and fame. As this was one of the great highways before the railroads were extended beyond the Alleghenies, most of the great men of the period passed over it. Jackson, Harrison, Clay, Polk, Taylor, Denton and many others made a point of stopping at the Mansion. Lafayette,

Madison and many others famous were entertained there, and many political caucuses were held in the drawing rooms of this home. Colonel Shepherd, accompanied by Mrs. Shepherd, spent many winters in Washington, attending Congress in settling claims in connection with the National Road.

The monument to Henry Clay was erected on the lawn. It is of free stone, twenty feet high, surmounted by a figure of the Goddess of Liberty. There were originally inscriptions on all four sides. On one side was the following:

"Time will bring every amelioration and refinement most gratifying to rational men, and the humblest flower freely plucked under the shelter of the tree of liberty is more to be desired than all the trappings of royalty. 44th year of American Independence, Anno Domini, 1820".

Alexander Ramsey, of Washington, and John Arey, of Claysville, executed the monument.

Across the lawn from the Clay monument is a fine old sun dial, erected the same year, and in the vicinity is an old church, dating from the early years of the nineteenth century, and in the church yard is the Shepherd Monument, erected to Colonel and Mrs. Shepherd. The church is of stone. It is one story high and is in good condition.

But two families have been the owners of Monument Place: Colonel Moses Shepherd, who procured the ground from the government through his father, and Alonzo Loring, who bought it from the estate of Mrs. Cruger (formerly Mrs. Shepherd).

After Major and Mrs. Loring moved to Monument Place, the cottage which stands at the left of the stone house was built for the family of Andrew Patterson, who was a son of Mrs. Loring. After Mrs. Loring's passing Mrs. Patterson frequently presided as hostess for Monument Place.

Monument Place came into the possession of Mrs. Lucy Loring Milton through inheritance from her father, and has now passed to the Masonic Order, to be preserved for all time.

W. Va. Historical Magazine, Vol. 3-5.
"A Brief History of Osiris Temple's Home"- Custody Mr. R. C. Lindsley,
2206 Chapline Street, Wheeling, W. Va.
The Transmitter, Nov. 1921 Dec. 1922.
W. Va. Review, Vol. 3, p 421.

History of the Panhandle (Ohio Co.)
p. 95 - 291
Rev. on Upper Ohio Vol. 2.
Cranmer's "Wheeling", pp 301-311
Showalter and Kellog p. 238-247-216-252.

Theresa M. Mather

Approved

Robert T. Ryle
District Officer

June 25, 1936.

Reviewed July 31, '36, T.T.O